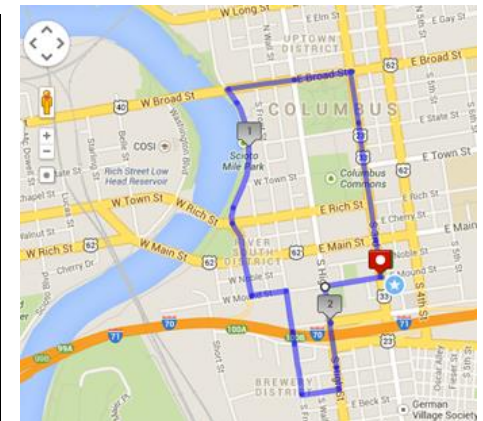


WHERE SHOULD I WALK? *Walk Study Checklist*

The goals of the walkability study are to increase neighborhood residents walking in their neighborhood and to identify destination places that are within walking distance.

This is done by walking with neighborhood residents to identify positive places to walk in their neighborhood, inventory barriers to pedestrians and bikers, and identify neighborhood destinations.

Business	United Way of Central Ohio
Date of Walk Study:	April 18 th , 2014
Participants:	City Staff: Kate Robb
	Adults: 5
	Children: 0
Distance Walked:	2.23 miles
Weather Conditions:	Sunny, approx. 71 degrees



The downtown area is a great place to socialize and walk- there are numerous pocket parks, wide sidewalks, and many active transportation opportunities. However, the traffic is loud throughout the day and drivers sometimes fail to yield to the pedestrian when appropriate. It is also difficult to cross over to the German Village and Brewery District areas because the traffic is fast and many of the streets provide on/off ramps to the highway. Overall, this area provides the walker unique places to walk on wide, even sidewalks and encourages discovery of the sites of Columbus.

PLAYABILITY/RECREATION

Playgrounds where these conditions were observed:

GOOD	Available shade.	Dorrian Commons Park
	Benches or tables for seating.	Statehouse (3 rd and Town), Scioto Mile, Dorrian Commons Park, Benches at Broad St and Wall intersection
	Water Fountains.	Columbus Commons
	Play equipment appropriate for young children.	Columbus Commons -carousel, Bicentennial Park- fountains
	Smooth asphalt playground.	
	Regularly mowed open spaces.	Columbus Commons, Bicentennial Park
FAIR	Lack of available shade.	Civic Center Drive/ Scioto Mile
	No benches or tables for seating.	
	No working water fountain.	
POOR	Unsafe playground equipment.	
	Deteriorated asphalt.	
	Open spaces that are not mowed.	
RATING: Overall, how would you rate the recreational opportunities in your neighborhood?		Circle one: Few >> 1 2 3 4 5 >>Many
COMMENTS: The downtown area is full of pocket parks and the Columbus Commons, which provides free fitness classes and a nice space to spend time with family. The Scioto Mile also provides a wonderful view of the river along with nice benches for seating. Though these spaces are a nice way to relax, some of the parks a quite sunny and not all have a readily available water fountain.		

NEIGHBORHOOD SIDEWALKS

Streets and addresses where these conditions were observed:

GOOD	Sidewalks are wide with room to pass other walkers or walk with a friend.	3 rd St, High St, Scioto Mile
	Sidewalks are continuous throughout the walk.	Consistent through downtown area
	There is available shade along sidewalks.	West side of Front St
FAIR	Sidewalks are uneven, cracked or broken.	2 nd St. right before Mound- sidewalk is uneven (picture below); potholes and cracks around gas station on Mound & Front St; No shade on Scioto Mile
	Sidewalks are missing or stop in places.	2 nd St.
POOR	There are no sidewalks or designated walking areas.	
RATING: Overall, how would you rate the sidewalks in your neighborhood? Circle one: Few >> 1 2 3 4 5 >>Many		
COMMENTS: The sidewalks in this area are wide, have few cracks, are ADA compliant, and are well-maintained overall. However, there are certain places along the sidewalks that do not have shade and road work signs on the sidewalk, which makes it difficult to walk without barriers.		



NEIGHBORHOOD STREETS AND FURNITURE

Streets and addresses where these conditions were observed:

GOOD	There are marked crosswalks.	There are many crosswalks throughout the downtown area
	Buffers are present on most streets.	Throughout downtown
	Transit stops are present in the neighborhood.	3 rd and Town St; bus stops along High St; CoGo stations on Mound
	There are places to sit along the sidewalks.	Scioto Mile, Ohio Statehouse, Bicentennial Park
	Bike lanes are present.	Sharrows present on Civic Center Drive, High St, South Front St
FAIR	Buffers are present on some streets.	
	There are a few marked crosswalks.	
POOR	There are no marked crosswalks.	Front and Fulton
	There are no buffers present.	
RATING: Overall, how would you rate the streets in your neighborhood? Circle one: Few >> 1 2 3 (4) 5 >>Many		
COMMENTS: This area is great in promoting active transportation- there are CoGo bike stations, bus stops, and sharrows present. There are also great places to sit and many crosswalks. A few streets seem unsafe to cross due to a lack of crosswalks and driver awareness, but are an overall pleasant walking experience.		

COMMUNITY GATHERING PLACES

Streets and addresses where these conditions were observed:

GOOD	Neighbors can buy food and groceries.	Brewery District Kroger, German Village Giant Eagle
	Neighbors can gather with friends.	Park spaces- Columbus Commons, Ohio State House, Dorrian Commons, Scioto Mile; restaurants on High St; Civic Cultural Arts Center; Mound Street Community Garden at 50 East Mound
	Neighbors can worship together.	Many churches on 3 rd
RATING: Overall, how would you rate the opportunities for community building in your neighborhood?		Circle one: Few >> 1 2 3 (4) 5 >>Many
COMMENTS: There are excellent opportunities for community gathering places downtown as shown above. Yet, some of these opportunities may be missed because not as many residents live downtown as they do in other areas.		

SAFETY

Streets and addresses where these conditions were observed:

GOOD	Short, pedestrian-scale lighting is present.	Scioto Mile- promenade; Front St in the Brewery District
	Neighbors are outside.	Many people are outside throughout the Downtown area- Statehouse, parks
	Dogs are secured.	
	Traffic is calm.	Front St
	Drivers obey stop signs and crosswalks.	
FAIR	Tall, automobile lighting is present.	2 nd St
	No one else is outside.	Brewery District
	Dogs are intimidating or not secured.	
POOR	There is no lighting.	
	Drivers ignore stop signs and crosswalks.	3 rd St; no crosswalks on Front and Fulton- dangerous crossing due to being a highway off-ramp
	Traffic is fast or unsafe.	People do not wait/ not enough time on 3 rd St, High St; Bicyclists on the sidewalk along the Scioto Mile Promenade
RATING: Overall, how safe do you feel walking in your neighborhood?		Circle one: Few >> 1 2 ③ 4 5 >>Many
COMMENTS: The traffic is loud and fast in most of the downtown area. The pedestrians must walk quickly to cross the street within the time allotted by the pedestrian signals. During the day, there are many people walking outside and the parks are inviting and safe for pedestrians.		

HOUSING

Streets and addresses where these conditions were observed:

GOOD	Houses are well-kept and yards are mowed.	
	There is no excessive noise.	Brewery District
	There is a pleasant feeling about the street.	Scioto Mile
FAIR	Houses are not well maintained.	Litter at the Fulton and High intersection
	Excessive noise comes from houses.	The excessive noise comes from the traffic in downtown and the Scioto Mile
POOR	Criminal activity may be taking place.	
RATING: Overall, how would you rate the housing environment in your neighborhood Circle one: Few >> 1 2 ③ 4 5 >>Many		
COMMENTS: This walk study was conducted with an organization and within the downtown area. Housing was not a major focus of this study; however, it is important to note that there is excessive noise from the traffic in downtown.		